

General Environmental Incident Summary

Incident: 4142 **Date/Time Notice:** 6/22/2016 1243 **DEM Incident No:**

Responsible Party: MDU

Date Incident: 6/21/2016 **Time Incident:** 2235 **Duration:**

County: McKenzie **Twp:** 150 **Rng:** 101 **Sec:** 5 **Qtr:**

Lat: 47.84105 **Long:** -103.64310 **Method:** Interpolation from map

Location Description: 804 Elk Street, Alexander, ND - behind motel in back alley

Submitted By: Andy McDonald

Affiliation: MDU

Address: 400 N 4th St.

City: Bismarck

State: ND

Zip:

Received By:

Contact Person:

400 N 4th St.
Bismarck, ND

Distance Nearest Occupied Building: 100 Feet

Release Contained: Yes

Type of Incident: Transformers Leaked

Description of Released Contaminant: Mineral Oil from two transformers (one transformer had 330 ppm PCB, the other was 0 ppm)

Volume Spilled: 60.00 gallons

Ag Related: No

EPA Extremely Hazardous Substance: No

Reported to NRC: No

Cause of Incident:

The utility pole that the two transformers were mounted on was snapped in half during a storm. The transformers fell to the east of the pole into the alley, and the majority of the contents of both units were released onto the soil/gravel.

Risk Evaluation:

Since the area was immediately cordoned off and cleanup efforts started early the following morning, there was no risk or exposure to the public.

of Fatalities: 0

of Injuries: 0

Affected Medium: 03 - soil

Potential Environmental Impacts:

All of the contaminated material and a large buffer of uncontaminated material was removed from the site. Other than the material that was removed, there will be no other environmental impacts associated with this event.

Action Taken or Planned:

When the crew arrived, the boundary of the spill was clearly identified. The oil was soaked into the dirt and gravel, so containment was not an issue. The transformers and associated debris were cleaned up. Contaminated soil (with a one foot buffer from the visual extent of contamination) was placed into two roll-off containers and debris was placed into drums and taken back to the Williston PCB building. Clean-up was completed by 3:00 PM on 6/23/16.

Wastes Disposal Location: The soil and debris will be taken to US Ecology in Grandview, ID. The transformers will be sent to Solomon Corp., in Solomon, KS.

Agencies Involved:

Updates

Date: 6/24/2016 ***Status:*** Reviewed - Assigned to NDDoH Division

Author: Schiermeister, Robin

Updated Volume:

Notes:

Release was due to transformers and contained according to the report. This has been assigned to the appropriate NDDoH Division.

Date: 7/6/2016 ***Status:*** Inspection

Author: Tintes Schiwal, Emily

Updated Volume:

Notes:

Another NDDoH employee and I stopped by the spill site on 06/30/16 at approximately 1400. MDU crews were on site at the time, filling in clean dirt and gravel where they had excavated the contaminated soil. The pole held two transformers, one with no PCBs and one with 330 parts per million (ppm) PCBs. The pole was located in a ditch adjacent to a dog kennel and two yards (both containing children's playground equipment). Luckily, the pole toppled to the east of its location, and the units landed on the gravel surface of the alley on the opposite side of the ditch from the homes. The fluid soaked the alley road surface and migrated a bit into the ditch. No standing water was present in the ditch, and it seemed the fluid would have pooled there and stayed in place. MDU crews excavated to 1 foot below the spilled fluid on the alley road surface and into the grass-covered ditch. I took photos and have placed them into the corresponding folder. All contaminated materials were sent to U.S. Ecology's hazardous waste landfill in Idaho. Two new transformers were erected in their place.